

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /034 W
-----043052 080827Z /23

R 070930Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9410
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 749

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, LA, VN

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: AMBER ONE

REF: A) STATE 168523, B) VIENTIANE 691, (C) VIENTIANE 462

1. EMBOFF CALLED JULY 7 ON SADEPHETH BODHIVARN OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECTION, DEPTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION, TO DISCUSS PAN AM'S APPLICATION TO USE AMBER ONE. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE TECHNICAL DETAILS" DELAYING APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION, SADEPHETH SAID THAT THE LAO WERE WAITING FOR A RESPONSE TO THEIR REQUEST THAT THE AIRLINE GIVE THEM RADIOS (PARA 7, REF C) TO HELP IN THE SACE CONTROL OF LAO AIRSPACE. (PAN AM VICE PRYAIDENT KRIMSKY TOLD US IN APRIL THAT HE BELIEVED HE HAD AVOIDED THIS ISSUE BY TELLING THE LAO THAT PAN AM PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO GET USG PERMISSION TO DONATE THE RADIOS.)

2. EMBOFF TOLD SADEPHETH THAT IT WAS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT KRIMSKY MIGHT BE VISITING VIETNAM IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND ASKED IF A VISIT TO VIENTIANE WOULD HELP TO CLEAR UP REMAINING QUESTIONS. SADEPHETH REPLIED THAT THE LAO WOULD WELCOME FURTHER DISCUSSION. HOWEVER, HE LATER CALLED THE EMBASSY TO TELL US THAT THE LAO FELT THAT KRIMSKY HAD UNDERSTOOD THEIR POSITION AND THEY COULD SEE NO BENEFIT FROM A VISIT UNLESS PAN AM WAS IN A POSITION TO RESPOND
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FAVORABLY TO THEIR REQUEST.

3. ON THE QUESTION OF NON-SCHEDULED AIRCRAFT, SADEPHETH SAID THAT IT WAS ONLY NECESSARY THAT THE REQUEST FOR PERMISSION IN PRINCIPLE FROM EACH COMPANY BE PROCESSED THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. SUBSEQUENT REQUESTS FOR INDIVIDUAL FLIGHTS COULD BE MADE DIRECTLY TO LAO AVIATION AUTHORITIES. SADEPHETH NOTED THAT BRITISH AND THAI

AIRLINES HAD FLOWN NON-SCHEDULED CHARTERS OVER LAO AIRSPACE, BUT HE AVOIDED A QUESTION AS TO THE METHOD OF CLEARANCE. HE DID NOTE THAT FINAL APPROVAL WAS REQUIRED FROM OUTSIDE HIS DEPARTMENT AND THAT WHATEVER METHOD WAS USED TO REQUEST CLEARANCE, AIRLINES SHOULD MAKE THEIR REQUEST SEVERAL WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF A PROPOSED FLIGHT.
ROBERTS

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